

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

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R 290950Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1929

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0264

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: LOCAL COVERAGE OF AEGEAN OIL DISPUTE

REF: THESS A-17 OF 4/19/74

1. CONSERVATIVE "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF MAY 28 DEVOTES ENTIRE FRONTPAGE TO GREEK/TURKISH RELATIONS, INCLUDING LONG BRIEF ON GREEK POSITION RE CONTINENTAL SHELF BY RETIRED ARMY INSPECTOR GENERAL, LT GEN ANDREAS SIAPKARAS, AND STRONGLY -WORDED EDITORIAL ON ISTANBUL BY CHIEF ED KYROU.

2. SIAPKARAS' ARTICLES ENTITLED "STRATEGIC ANALYSIS OF QUESTION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS", OUTLINES 1958 GENEVA TREATY AS BASIS FOR GOG CLAIMS TO SHELF SURROUNDING AEGEAN ISLANDS. REPORT ACCOMPANIED BY LARGE FRONTPAGE MAP AND DIAGRAM OF CONTINENTAL SHELF. CONCLUSIONS PARALLEL THOSE OF PROF. CONSTANTOPOULOS PREVIOUSLY CARRIED IN "VORRAS" (REF). SIAPKARAS ALSO DISCLAIMS GOG AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS, BUT CONCLUDES THAT GREEKS PREPARED TO RESPOND WITH FORCE IF NECESSARY. ARTICLE URGES GREECE TO SEEK UN AND NATO MEDIATION IN EVENT OF TURKISH AGGRESSION.

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3. ACCOMPANYING SIAPKARAS' REPORT ON FRONTPAGE IS
VITUPERATIVE KYROU EDITORIAL ON ANNIVERSARY OF CAPTURE OF
CONSTANTINOIPLE, CONTAINING REFERENCES TO TURKS AS
"BARBARIANS, BACKWARD, LAZY" ETC. AFTER TREATING
ALLEGED HISTORIC INSTANCES OF TURKISH PERFIDY, KYROU
CAUTIONS THAT GOT SHOULD NOT NOW "MOVE UNDER COVER OF AMERICAN
DRILLING SHIP".
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